

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-19, 21, 23, and 24 were pending and presented for examination and in this application. In an Office Action dated February 8, 2007, claims 13-15, 23, and 24 were objected to, and claims 1, 2, 5-12, 16-19, and 21 were rejected. Applicants thank Examiner for examination of the claims pending in this application and address Examiner's comments below.

Applicants are cancelling, without prejudice, claims 1, 2, 5-12, 16-19, and 21. Applicants are adding new claims 25-30. Applicants are amending claims 13, 15, and 23. These changes are believed not to introduce new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

In view of the Amendments herein and the Remarks that follow, Applicants respectfully request that Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections, and withdraw them.

Response to Rejection Under 35 USC 103(a)

In the 4th paragraph of the Office Action, Examiner rejects claims 1, 2, 5-12, 16-19, and 21 under 35 USC § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Nodoushani et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,563,816) in view of Gerszberg et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,510,152). Claims 1, 2, 5-12, 16-19, and 21 are cancelled without prejudice herein. Thus, the basis for this rejection has now been obviated.

Claim Objections

In the 20th and 21st paragraphs of the Office Action, Examiner objected to claims 13-15 and 23-24 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants have amended

claims 13, 15, and 23 to now be in independent form, and thus, allowable. Therefore, Applicants request allowance of these claims and of dependent claims 14 and 24-30.

Conclusion

Applicants have added new dependent claims 25 through 30, which are dependent on claim 15. These claims are believed not to add new matter and are commensurate with the scope of protection to which Applicants believe they are entitled. Consideration and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

In conclusion, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims as presented herein, specifically, claims 13-15 and 23-30, are now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,
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